

response in this application or any application claiming priority thereto, the necessary extensions and payment of the further fees are requested.

Prior to initial examination of the present CPA application, it is requested that the Examiner enter the Amendment previously filed on May 4, 1998. In the Office Action of May 13, 1998, the Examiner objected to the Amendment of May 4th as not fully responsive to the prior Office Action for reciting a different invention than was originally presented for examination. Accordingly, Applicant has filed the attached CPA application to pursue the claims of the May 4th Amendment.

It is believed that all of the pending claims in the application are in fully allowable and patentable form. The pending claims are directed to a combination of an ion source, a Time-of-Flight mass analyzer and a multipole ion guide. The combination of an ion source, a Time-of-Flight mass analyzer and a multipole ion guide was one of the inventions claimed in the parent application, which issued as U.S. Patent No. 5,652,427 on July 29, 1997. The claims to this invention included, for example, Claim 35, and were held allowable. Further claims to provide additional protection are being presented herein.

A prompt and favorable response allowing all pending claims is requested and believed fully warranted.

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Respectfully submitted,

Morris E. Cohen

Morris E. Cohen (Reg. No. 39,947)
Levisohn, Lerner, Berger, and Langsam
757 Third Avenue, Suite 2400
New York, New York 10017
(212) 486 - 7272